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MCHD DENTISTRY HOLDS OPEN HOUSE TO SPOTLIGHT OFFICE EXPANSION, THANK GRANTORS

MORGANTOWN, WV — (NOVEMBER 3, 2017)

MCHD Dentistry, Monongalia County Health Department’s full-service dental clinic, will spotlight its new patient operatory and larger sterilization room—as well as thank the grantors who helped make the expansion possible—during an open house that will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9.

The event will include refreshments, remarks and a “floss-cutting” that will take place at approximately 12:15 p.m. Attendees can meet the staff and see the new operatory, complete with new dental chair and equipment, as well as the sterilization room that houses a larger autoclave to sterilize dental instruments.

MCHD Dentistry expanded and made these improvements thanks to two grants that amounted to nearly $100,000, received in early 2017. The West Virginia Oral Health Development Program, part of the Center for Rural Health Development in Hurricane, provided $89,000 while the American Dental Association (ADA) added nearly $10,000 to the project.

Representatives from the West Virginia Oral Health Development Program will be on hand for the open house, along with MCHD Dentistry Staff and Dr. Lee B. Smith, MCHD Executive Director and County Health Officer.

Thanks to the grant, two existing operatories also received brand-new dental chairs, for a total of three new chairs. The other two operatories already were equipped with upgraded dental chairs.

The extra operatory means that each of MCHD Dentistry’s three dental hygienists—Roger Reed, Tiffany Summerlin and Whitney Holmes—can treat patients simultaneously, leaving two chairs free for Dr. Dan Carrier to coordinate the care of additional patients. A new air compressor required to operate the hand pieces that the dental hygienists use also was purchased thanks to the grants.

The new room will make it easier for MCHD Dentistry to continue expanding its family of patients. Also, patients seeking emergency treatment will be able to be seen sooner—often on the same day—and it will also be easier for Dr. Carrier to do immediate follow-up treatment on patients undergoing their six-month checkups who require restorative services rather than have them come back for another appointment.
Since Dr. Carrier’s arrival in 2010, MCHD Dentistry has added two dental hygienists and has essentially doubled the number of patients seen annually, from 2,160 patients in fiscal year 2010-11 to 4,304 patients in fiscal year 2016-17. That number is expected to grow to about 5,000 patients during the current fiscal year.

Established in 1974, MCHD Dentistry is the only comprehensive dental clinic located within a county health department in the state of West Virginia. MCHD Dentistry is a full-service dental office where patients can receive not only biannual dental cleanings and check-ups but also therapeutic work such as fillings, dental bridges, ceramic crowns, implants, root canals and simple extractions.

Patients can also visit MCHD Dentistry for cosmetic treatments such as in-office bleaching, cosmetic bonding and porcelain veneers, as well as Invisalign, a tooth-straightening alternative to metal braces. Updated, high-tech equipment, including digital X-rays, provide a safer and more pleasant dental visit for patients.

MCHD Dentistry staff treat patients who utilize the full spectrum of payment options, including private insurance, Medicaid and the West Virginia Children’s Health Insurance Program, or CHIP. MCHD Dentistry also participates in CareCredit, a dental financing program, and there also is a sliding fee discount for uninsured patients. The dental office also offers discounts for new, uninsured patients: $150 for adults, $125 for children ages 6 to 17 and $75 for children ages 5 and under.

To make an appointment or for more information, call MCHD Dentistry at 304-598-5108 or go online to www.mchddentistry.com.

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